

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

U. S. SECRET SERVICE

TO : Mr. J. Lee Rankin, General Counsel File No. CO-2-34,030
President's Commission on the DATE: May 18, 1964
Assassination of President Kennedy

FROM : Mr. James J. Rowley *JJR*
Chief, U. S. Secret Service

SUBJECT: Secret Service Reports

There are attached copies of reports covered
by Secret Service Control Numbers 1505 and 1506.

Attachments

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Commission No. **937a**

ORIGIN Field	OFFICE Dallas, Texas	FILE NO. CC-2-34,030
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy (Robert A. Surrey)
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Dallas, Texas	PERIOD COVERED May 13, 1964	
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SAIC Sorrels, SA William Patterson, SA Roger Warner, SA John Joe Howlett and SA Gene F. Wofford		

SYNOPSIS

Robert A. Surrey, 3506 Lindenwood, Dallas, identified as person for whom Robert Klause printed the "Wanted for Treason" leaflets.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference by M/R dated 5-12-64.

Other Investigations

On 5-13-64, SA Wofford and SA Howlett interviewed Mrs. Ruth Klause at her place of employment, Union Bankers Insurance Co., 2551 Elm St., Dallas. Mrs. Klause agreed to accompany us to the Secret Service Office, Dallas, so that we might talk in private. This arrangement was also acceptable to her employer.

SAIC Sorrels and SA Howlett interviewed Mrs. Ruth Klause at the Dallas Secret Service Office. Mrs. Klause readily admitted that she and her husband, Robert Klause, printed the "Wanted for Treason" leaflets at Lettercraft Printing Co., 2615 Oak Lawn, Dallas, late one evening. Mrs. Klause said that she was unable to recall the date that the leaflets were printed and that she has been trying to remember the date for the last few days since we had been talking with her husband and she knew that we would more than likely be talking with her. Mrs. Klause said that she did not see the copy that the text of the leaflet was taken from and that she only saw the negatives of President Kennedy's picture. Mrs. Klause said that she did not know for sure where the negatives were made but assumed that her husband had the negatives made at Monk Bros. as that was where they had most of the work done. Mrs. Klause said that to the best of her memory they printed 10,000 copies of the leaflet. When they completed printing the leaflet she said they packed them into two boxes and left them in a storeroom at Lettercraft. She and her husband then went home and she said she never saw the

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Chief ✓	Orig. & 1 cc	<i>[Signature]</i>	
		SPECIAL AGENT	5-11-64
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Dallas	2 cc's	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	5-14-64

leaflets again. However, she said she kept one sample copy which she later destroyed after the assassination. She said her husband talks very little and that he never told her for whom he printed the leaflets. She said that she asked him when she first saw the leaflet who it was for and her husband told her that it was none of her business.

Mrs. Klausé said that she did not know the price of the job but estimated it to be about \$60. She said a few days after they printed the leaflets that her husband gave her \$20. She said her reason for helping print the leaflets was because she needed the money and that she thought the "Wanted for Treason" leaflet was a joke until the President was assassinated.

While Mrs. Klausé was being interviewed at the Secret Service Office, Dallas, her husband, Robert Klausé, came into the office and said that he wanted to tell the story about the "Wanted for Treason" leaflet. Mrs. Klausé said that she did not want her husband to know that she had talked with us and she was escorted out of the office through a back door.

SAIC Sorrels, SA Patterson and SA Warner interviewed Robert Klausé in the Dallas Secryt Service Office. Robert Klausé identified his customer as Mr. Robert A. Surrey, 3506 Lindemood, Dallas, Texas, telephone LA 6-7741. He said Surrey was a salesman for the Johnston Printing Co., 2700 North Haskell, Dallas, Texas, telephone TA 3-6191. Klausé said that Surrey came to him and said that he had a printing job that he wanted him to do for him. Klausé agreed to do the job for \$40 and Surrey provided two pictures from a magazine and the text copy on what printers call a "railroad board". Klausé was unable to make a negative of the magazine pictures and took them to Monk Bros. to be photographed. Klausé himself shot a photograph of the text copy on the camera at Lettercraft Printing Company. Klausé then made the plate from the negatives that Monk Bros. had made and the negatives that he had made. Klausé said that he printed the leaflets by himself late one evening, and Mr. Surrey picked the leaflets up the next evening.

Klausé said that Surrey told him that he, Surrey, had a customer who wanted these printed up and that he, Surrey, could not handle the job. Surrey never did name the individual for whom he was placing the order.

Robert Klausé said that the leaflets were printed about a week or maybe two weeks before the assassination and his wife, Ruth Klausé, said that it was about three weeks prior to the assassination. Efforts were made to more accurately determine the date, but Mr. and Mrs. Klausé were unable to do so.

Mr. Klausé said that to the best of his memory he printed 5,000 copies of the leaflet. Mrs. Klausé said that to the best of her memory they printed 10,000 copies of the leaflet.

The interviews with Mr. and Mrs. Klausé were recorded on a portable dictaphone and the belts are being held in the files at Dallas.

Mr. Robert A. Surrey is known to be associated with General Edwin Walker. Information at the Criminal Intelligence Section, Dallas Police Department, indicates that Mr. Surrey is an aide to General Walker.

It is also reported that the picket signs used when the Dallas Theatre Center was picketed in 1962 were made at the home of Robert Surrey.

Karen Surrey, daughter of Robert Surrey, presented a bouquet of flowers to Madam Ngo Dinh Nhu when she visited Dallas. This was supposed to be during an "American Day" celebration. The "American Day" celebration was to counteract United Nations Day.

The American Eagle Publishing Company published a book containing the news stories from the Dallas Times Herald and the Dallas Morning News. The back cover of this book contained a letter on the letterhead of "American Eagle Publishing Company" and was signed by Robert A. Surrey, President American Eagle Publishing Company. This book which sells for \$6.00 was distributed by the American Book Store Company, 6930 Snyder Plaza, Dallas 5, Texas.

The American Eagle Publishing Company is believed to be controlled by General Edwin Walker. Lt. Jack Revill, Criminal Intelligence Section, Dallas Police Department, reports that he has received numerous complaints that the American Eagle Publishing Company is anti-Jewish, anti-negro, etc. Lt. Revill reports that some organizations from the opposite end of the spectrum try to keep tab on what the American Eagle Publishing Co. is doing. For this reason, it is possible that Mr. Surrey did not want to print the "Wanted for Treason" leaflets at the American Eagle Publishing Company.

On Sept. 30, 1962, Ashland Frederic Burchwell (CO-2-36,862) was arrested in Dallas, Texas, with several guns and a large quantity of ammunition in his car. Burchwell stated at that time that he was enroute to Mississippi to assist General Walker. Burchwell had in his personal effects the unlisted telephone number of Mr. Robert A. Surrey. Burchwell also admitted working for General Walker.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

Investigation continued.

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Commission No.

9376

ORIGIN Field	OFFICE Dallas, Texas	FILE NO. 60-234,030
TYPE OF CASE Protective Research	STATUS Continued	TITLE OR CAPTION Assassination of President Kennedy
INVESTIGATION MADE AT Dallas, Texas		PERIOD COVERED 5-11-64
INVESTIGATION MADE BY SA John Joe Howlett and SA Gene Wofford		Robert Klause

DETAILS

SYNOPSIS

Investigation has not yet positively identified printer and/or financier of "Wanted for Treason" leaflets. Investigation continued.

DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to my M/R dated 5-12-64.

Other Investigations

On 5-11-64, SAs Howlett and Wofford interviewed Henry Davila of 8815 Beckley View, Dallas, at his place of employment, Etheridge Printing Company, 1812 N. Field Street, Dallas. Mr. Davila said that he went to work for Lettercraft on November 28, 1963, and worked until January 28, 1964. While he was working there, he said, that to the best of his knowledge, Lettercraft did not have any kind of type-setting device nor did they have any kind of letter press proofing press. However, he said while he was employed there, there were several different occasions upon which type could have been used and a letter press proofing press could have been used. Due to this fact, he says that he does not believe they had this kind of equipment. He said this work was farmed out to other printing companies while he worked there.

Mr. Davila was shown the "Wanted for Treason" leaflet and he said that in his opinion, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Mercer or Mr. Bill Eason would not have printed this type of literature. He also said that while he was employed there he does not recall Lettercraft printing any kind of political leaflets or material. He said that Robert Klause was interested in a "fast buck" and he would not put it past Robert Klause to have printed the leaflet. He said during his employment, he did not see any material, scrap, etc., or hear any conversation

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Dallas	2 cc	SPECIAL AGENT	5-13-64
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		SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	5-13-64

that would indicate the leaflet was printed at Lettercraft.

Mr. Davila could not name any type setting company that set type for Lettercraft while he was working there as his job was printing.

Mr. Davila was asked if he knew of any friends of Robert Klause that were also in the printing business and he said that he knew of no real close friends, however, there was a man from Fort Worth whose name was Dally or something similar to that.

During my interview with Mr. Monk of Monk Brothers, Mr. Monk mentioned a Delbert D. Dally, who approached Mr. Monk about doing some work on credit and said that he was a friend of the people at Lettercraft. Mr. Dally produced a card showing a Fort Worth address and also showing the address of Lettercraft at 2615 Oak Lawn, Dallas.

Mr. Davila was asked if the person's name could be Delbert Dally and he said that that sounded like the name. Mr. Davila also said it was his understanding the man was from Fort Worth, Texas.

SA Wofford and I both got the impression that Mr. Davila may know something that he is not telling us. Extensive efforts were made to convince Mr. Davila that any information he gave us would be in confidence and that he need not worry. Mr. Davila said that in his opinion if the leaflets were printed at Lettercraft, there was a good possibility that Mr. Bill Eason would know something about them. Mr. Davila said that Bill Eason had mentioned to him that Robert Klause had worked on a couple of jobs off hours and had also cheated Lettercraft on some of the jobs printed there. Mr. Davila said that he did not think Bill Eason would have anything to do with printing the leaflets, but there was a good chance he might have observed some scrap, etc.

Mr. Davila was asked that if in his opinion did he think that Robert Klause would have printed the "Wanted for Treason" leaflets? To this, Mr. Davila said, "I think you should talk to him again."

On 5-12-64 SA Wofford and I interviewed Homer Dwight Hatcher at his home, 2662 Ann Arbor, Dallas. Mr. Hatcher said that he had worked for Lettercraft approximately two weeks and at the time he worked there he and Robert Klause were the only printers. To the best of Mr. Hatcher's memory, this was in September or October of 1963. At the time Mr. Hatcher worked there, he said they had one or two small presses and that Lettercraft was a small kind of fly by night printing company. Mr. and Mrs. Mercer wanted Hatcher to take over the printing angle of the business and free Bob Klause to sell and do the camera work. Mr. Hatcher said that he was not happy with the small business and quit after about 2 weeks. Mr. Hatcher said that at the time he worked for Lettercraft, they did not have any kind of type-setting device or letter press proofing press. The

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"Wanted for Trenson" leaflet was shown to Mr. Hatcher and he replied that while he worked at Lettercraft, on one or two occasions he had run some scratch pads using the identical paper. The paper is 9" x 12" and 4 scratch pads are printed per page and later cut and glued into scratch pads. Mr. Hatcher said that he ran 6,000 or 8,000 sheets. Mr. Hatcher said that he had not been employed at Lettercraft long enough to really get to know Mr. and Mrs. Mercer and Robert Klause, and could not render any opinion. Mr. Hatcher said that he was also very busy printing during the time that he worked there and that he did not know anything about any of the type setting companies that Lettercraft used, or any of the friends of Robert Klause or Mr. and Mrs. Mercer. Hatcher could furnish no additional information of value in this investigation.

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

Investigation continued.

JJH:wd